

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An applicator for attaching fasteners to body tissue comprising:
  - a distal portion having an elongate outer tube, a connecting end and a terminal end;
  - a proximal portion having a handle and an actuator, the proximal portion being attached to the connecting end of the distal portion; and
  - a rotator cooperating with the actuator and including a longitudinal groove extending along at least a portion of the length of the rotator, the groove configured to receive a portion a fastener, wherein the rotator resides within and extends substantially the length of the outer tube such that actuation of the actuator rotates the fastener relative to the outer tube.